

8385, Richmond Community Schools

PROJECT ABSTRACT

We are Richmond Community Schools located in Richmond, IN. The focus of this grant will be on Richmond High School, Dennis Middle School, and Test Middle School. The overriding goal of this project is to energize student involvement to increase ISTEP scores by at least 3 percentage points in Math and English for the 2009-2010 school year. The project will extend to three main areas in our high school and the two middle schools:

- Supplemental online access to Math and Reading areas for all students
- Online access for all students in Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM)
- Supplemental online AP instruction for Advanced Placement

To succeed in these areas, adherence to Indiana Academic Standards is paramount. At the outset of the project, the grant management team will meet with representatives from the middle and high schools to identify standards that the School Improvement Plans identifies for growing and fostering student learning. As the grant matures, monthly reviews of the curriculum and the outputs will be examined to ensure our main areas are progressing as addressed.

We know that by getting students engaged in their learning process, we can attain higher ISTEP scores. We want to find ways to empower student success through achievement, motivation, and engagement. With the integration of new technology that this grant will provide, authentic learning will take place for all students. Usage of Web 2.0 collaboration tools will increase for students and faculty by use of Microsoft Live Services, MOODLE, and other in-house tools. In addition, partnering with another school corporation, Northeastern Wayne Schools, will help us move forward seamlessly. They have addressed student needs by utilizing classroom technology, such as One-to-One, MOODLE, interactive whiteboards, and student response systems.

Our project objectives and goals, which are aligned with the School Improvement Plan and the 3 Year School Technology Plan, focus on improving student learning in the following areas:

Expand the learning environment by integrating new technologies through innovative instructional strategies. (1) Provide additional Advanced Placement courses by way of a Distance Learning Solution technology. (2) Provide in-class LCD projectors and document cameras for teachers to display interactive and multimedia content. (3) Provide interactive whiteboards and wireless pads to allow students to participate directly in the learning process.

Empower student-centered learning through 21st Century technology. Provide MP3/MP4 players that will allow teachers to provide stored audio and video content of textbook materials, classroom lectures, and podcasts for student learning. An increase in STEM curriculum will be available to all students using podcasting resources.

Provide student response systems (clickers) for teachers to receive instant feedback from all students and enable all students to become engaged in their learning situation.

Increase wireless access to expand learning opportunities. Provide additional access points to expand student learning throughout the buildings.

By receiving this grant we can continue to move our classroom technology forward to meet the needs of the 21st Century learner, creating a total classroom solution.